



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: GWEN, Patrick

SERIAL NO.: 10/830,145

ART UNIT: 3732

FILED: April 13, 2004

EXAMINER: Doe, G.S.C.

TITLE: CASE FOR RETAINING A TOOTHBRUSH AND OTHER DENTAL CLEANING TOOLS THEREIN

Amendment A: CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Claims 1 - 20 (canceled). Please cancel Claims 1 - 20 and substitute Claims 21 - 37 therefor as follows:

21. (new) A dental tool apparatus comprising:

a case having a longitudinal axis, said case having a pair of sides extending in generally parallel relation to each other; and

a first cleaning tool pivotally mounted on a pivot axis in said case so as to be movable between a first position within said case to a second position extending outwardly of said case, said first cleaning tool being a toothbrush, said toothbrush having bristles extending outwardly therefrom in an orientation transverse to said longitudinal axis when said toothbrush is in said first position, said bristles extending so as to face one of said pair of sides, said bristles extending in generally parallel relation to said pivot axis.

22. (new) The dental tool apparatus of Claim 21, further comprising:

a second cleaning tool pivotally mounted in said case so as to be movable between a first position within said case to a second position extending outwardly of said case.

23. (new) The apparatus of Claim 22, further comprising:

a third cleaning tool pivotally mounted in said case so as to be movable between a first position within said case to a second position extending outwardly of said case.

24. (new) The apparatus of Claim 21, said pivot axis extending transverse to said longitudinal axis of said case.

25. (new) The apparatus of Claim 24, further comprising:

a closure member pivotally connected to said case, said closure member movable between a covering position covering said first cleaning tool within said case and an open position allowing said first cleaning tool to move from said first position to said second position.

26. (new) The apparatus of Claim 25, said closure member retaining said first cleaning tool in said second position when said closure member is in said covering position.

27. (new) The apparatus of Claim 25, said closure member pivotable adjacent an opposite end of said case about an axis extending transverse to said longitudinal axis of said case from the location where said toothbrush is pivotally attached to said case.

28. (new) The apparatus of Claim 25, said first cleaning tool having a flap extending outwardly of a surface thereof, said closure member having a surface abutting said flap when said closure member is in said covering position.

29. (new) The apparatus of Claim 22, said first cleaning tool having a lever member extending outwardly of said case when said first cleaning tool is in said first position, said second cleaning tool having a lever member extending outwardly of an end of said case when said second cleaning tool is in said first position.

30. (new) The apparatus of Claim 29, said lever member of said first cleaning tool being angularly offset from said lever member of said second cleaning tool.

31. (new) The apparatus of Claim 29, said case having an abutment member extending thereacross, said lever member of said first cleaning tool contacting said abutment member when in said second position.

32. (new) The apparatus of Claim 28, said first cleaning tool having a notch formed on a surface thereof, said surface of said closure member received within said notch when said closure member is in said covering position.

33. (new) The apparatus of Claim 23, said second cleaning tool being a toothpick, said third cleaning tool being an interdental brush.

34. (new) The apparatus of Claim 23, said toothpick and said interdental brush each having a length less than length extending from the pivotal mounting of said toothbrush to the bristles.

35. (new) The apparatus of Claim 22, said case having an axle extending thereacross, said first and second cleaning tools being pivotally mounted coaxially on said axle.

36. (new) A dental tool apparatus comprising:

a case having a longitudinal axis and a pair of sides extending in parallel relation to each other;

a toothbrush pivotally mounted adjacent one end of said case so as to be movable between a first position within said case to a second position extending outwardly of said case, said toothbrush having an axis of rotation extending transverse to said longitudinal axis of said case, said toothbrush having bristles extending from an end thereof so as to face one of said pair of sides of said case;

a closure member pivotally connected about a pivot axis to said case adjacent an opposite end of said case from the location where the toothbrush is pivotally attached to the case, said closure member movable between a covering position covering said toothbrush within said case and an open position allowing toothbrush to move from said first position to said second position, said pivot axis being parallel to said axis of rotation of said toothbrush, said bristles and said one end of said case and said one of said pair of sides defining a space within said case; and

a cleaning tool pivotally mounted co-axially with said toothbrush in said case, said cleaning tool movable between a first position within said case and a second position extending outwardly of said case, said cleaning tool residing within said space when in said first position.

37. (new) A dental tool apparatus comprising:

a case having a longitudinal axis;

a toothbrush pivotally mounted about an axis transverse to said longitudinal axis of said case so as to be movable between a first position within said case to a second position extending outwardly of said case; and

a closure member pivotally connected to said case, said closure member movable between a covering position covering said toothbrush within said case and an open position allowing said toothbrush to move from said first position to said second position, said closure member retaining said toothbrush in said second position when said closure member is in said covering position, said toothbrush having a flap extending outwardly therefrom, said closure member having a surface abutting said flap when said closure member is in said covering position, said toothbrush having a notch formed on another surface thereof, said surface of said closure member received within said notch when said closure member is in said covering position.